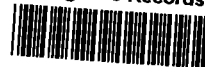


**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



279999

Date: Friday, February 22, 2008

From: Craig Thomas, OSC

To: Michael Harris, U.S. EPA ERB 1 Section Jason El-Zein, U.S. EPA, ERB 1
2

David Chung, U.S. EPA

Milagros Bensing, U.S. EPA

Kevin Schnoes, Department of the
Environment

Maria Gonzalez, U.S. EPA

John Maritote, U.S. EPA

Bruce Everetts, Illinois EPA

Dave Reed, Illinois EPA

Cameron Walker, Metropolitan Water
Reclamation District

Subject: Initiation of Action

U.S. Scrap

12300 S. Cottage Grove Ave/12301 S. King Drive, Chicago, IL

Latitude: 41.67

Longitude: -87.6036

POLREP No.: 1

Reporting January 23, 2008 - February 22,

Period: 2008

Start Date: 1/23/2008

Mob Date: 1/23/2008

Completion

Date:

CERCLIS ID #: ILD980679484

RCRIS ID #:

Site #:

D.O. #:

Response

Authority:

Response Type: Time-Critical

NPL Status:

Incident

Category:

Contract #

CERCLA

Non NPL

Removal

Action

Site Description

The U.S. Scrap Site is located at 12301 South Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. The Site is an abandoned debarrelling facility that operated as an open dump in the late 1960's and early 1970's. It occupies approximately 6 1/2 acres and is bordered by railroad right-of-way to the west, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of Greater Chicago's Calumet Sewage Treatment Plant to the South and East, and S.G. Keywell, Inc., a scrap metal recycling operation to the North. The Site is located approximately 1 mile west of Lake Calumet and 1/2 mile northeast of the Little Calumet River. The Site is also located within one mile of residential housing.

From the late 1960s to 1975, Mr. Steve Martell conducted drum reclamation activities at the U.S. Scrap Site. Non-reclaimable drums and wastes from re-claimable drums were emptied into on-site pits. Waste received at U.S. Scrap for on-site incineration was allegedly dumped at the Site.

U.S. EPA conducted a removal action at the site in 1985, extinguishing a landfill fire by capping the affected areas with clay, and excavating and backfilling a railroad embankment, in an attempt to locate shock-sensitive chemicals. A special study conducted in 1987 revealed that elevated levels of many hazardous substances remained, including PCBs, pesticides, and organic solvents.

By correspondence dated June 28, 2005, Illinois EPA asked U.S. EPA to conduct a time-critical removal assessment and possible removal action at the Site.

U.S. EPA's Site Assessment, which occurred June 25th, 2007, determined that Site soils were heavily contaminated with PCBs, chlorinated solvents, lead and cadmium.

Surface liquids sampled during U.S. EPA's Site Assessment showed high levels of vinyl chloride, benzene, ethylbenzene, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, toluene, total xylenes, bis (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, dichlorobenzene, diethyl phthalate, di-n-butylphthalate, 2-methylnaphthalene, acenaphthene, acenaphthylene, anthracene, benz(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(g,h,i)perylene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, chrysene, dibenz(a,h)anthracene, fluoranthene, fluorene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, naphthalene, phenanthrene, pyrene, alpha chlordane, total chlordane, gamma chlordane. Surface liquids also included several PCBs include aroclor 1242, aroclor 1254, and aroclor 1260.

On January 22nd, 2008 U.S. EPA received an access agreement to conduct a time critical removal action at the site.

Current Activities

U.S. EPA, the ERRS contractor, Environmental Quality Management, and the START contractor, STNJV, mobilized to the site on January 23, 2008. For the period of January 23 through February 15, 2008, the following activities occurred: began installing rock for haul road and repair of existing perimeter fence; the site trailer and guard shack were set up.

START conducted air monitoring of work zones with gilian air pumps, a Personal Data Ram (PDR), a Mulitrac and conducted a radiation survey of the site with a Ludlum Model 2221 detector with a 44-10 probe.

Prior to collecting and transporting liquid from the main lagoon area, five background low flow air samples were collected. START followed the specific sampling procedures for low flow sampling based on the specific NIOSH procedure for metals (NIOSH 7300), BTEX (NIOSH 1501), and chlordane (NIOSH 5510). The samples were shipped overnight to Bureau Veitas North America, Inc. laboratories for analysis. During the next three days of collecting liquid from the main lagoon, 5 air samples were collected each day. The samples were well below the action limits for metals, BTEX and chlordane. Five air samples

were collected during the initial sheet piling wall installation. The samples were analyzed for BTEX and chlordane. The results were continuously below the action levels.

START collected air monitoring for total particulates using a passive PDR for nuisance dust. The levels were less than 1 mg/m³, excluding when the vac-tank had to discharge back into the swale at the end of the day to clear the vac-tank. At that time, the levels increased to .087 mg/m³ to 1.37 mg/m³ which was still below the action level of 2.5 mg/m³ respiratory dust.

The radiation survey conducted with a Ludlum Model 2221 detector with a 44-10 probe did not reveal any readings above background.

ERRS installed an interceptor trench in the main lagoon to facilitate pumping of liquid from the lagoon. A 20,000 gallon frac tank was used to temporarily store liquids from the lagoon.

ERRS also began installing sheet piling to a depth of approximately 10 feet between the U.S. Scrap property boundary and the MWRD property.

Between February 11th and February 22nd, 2008 approximately 29,800 gallons of waste liquids from the lagoon area were shipped off to the Clean Harbors Deer Park LP in LaPorte, Texas for disposal.

Planned Removal Actions

Continue installing sheet piling between the U.S. Scrap site and the MWRD property, to minimize off-site migration of contaminants.

Continue pumping liquids out from the lagoon area for disposal.

Dispose of contaminated soil, as necessary.

Next Steps

Due to larger than anticipated volume of contaminated liquids in the lagoon areas, it will be necessary to evaluate whether on-site treatment of liquids could be effective in reducing the amount of liquid that needs to be sent for off-site disposal.

Key Issues

None at this time.

Estimated Costs *

| | Budgeted | Total To Date | Remaining | % Remaining |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Extramural Costs | | | | |
| ERRS - Cleanup Contractor | \$1,000,000.00 | \$283,550.00 | \$716,450.00 | 71.65% |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| RST/START | \$60,000.00 | \$23,196.00 | \$36,804.00 | 61.34% |
| Intramural Costs | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Total Site Costs | \$1,060,000.00 | \$306,746.00 | \$753,254.00 | 71.06% |

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

Disposition of Wastes

| Waste Stream | Quantity | Manifest # | Disposal Facility |
|---|---------------|---------------|--|
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 5,300 gallons | 001837626 FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 4,700 gallons | 001837629 FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 4,700 gallons | 001837630 FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 5,200 gallons | 001837627FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 |

| | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|---|
| | | | Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 5200 gallons | 001837628 FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |
| NA3082, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUID, N.O.S., (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, CHLORDANE), 9, PGIII | 4,700 gallons | 001837635 FLE | CLean Harbors Deer Park LP 2027 Battleground Road LaPorte, TX 77571 |

www.epaossc.net/USScrap